

Serial No: 09/896,059
Art Unit: 2825

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant has attached hereto replacement sheets containing formal drawings, i.e., Figures 1-10.

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-19, 21-36, 38-44, 46-52, 54-59, and 61-77 are currently pending in this application. Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has withdrawn all art-based rejections and that only objections to the language of some of the claims remain.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended claims 1, 11, 21, 30, 31, 39, 47, and 54 to change the phrase "and/or" to "or" per the Examiner's suggestion. This amendment is for clarity only and is not intended to limit the claims in any way under Festo. To avoid any doubt, the aforementioned claims read on any design-specific cell that is generated, characterized or optimized, as well as, generated and characterized, generated, characterized and optimized, generated and optimized, or characterized and optimized.

Applicants have provided antecedent basis by amending the independent claims from which claims 6, 9, 16, 19, 26, 29, 66 and 69 depend to include an "IC design".

Applicants have also amended claims 7, 17, 27, 36, 52, 59, 67, and 70-77, by removing the objected phrase "combinations thereof", and placing the Markush grouping in language that more particularly points out and claims that which is claimed by the Applicants.

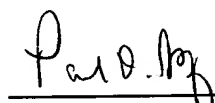
Also attached hereto are Replacement Sheets with formal drawings, Figures 1-10, which overcome the objections by the Examiner and the Official Draftsperson.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the application based upon the aforementioned.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2-11-05



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